

PROTEIN AND GENE INVOLVED IN MYOCYTE DIFFERENTIATION

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A novel gene was unexpectedly isolated in an attempt to isolate a gene specifically
expressed in immortalized cells via antibody screening using an antibody raised against a
protein occurring specifically in immortalized cells. The gene thus isolated shares no
sequence homology with the entries deposited in the database and was strongly expressed in
skeletal muscles and undifferentiated cells. The protein encoded by this gene inhibits the
10 differentiation of myoblasts into myotubes. It also inhibits the transactivation function of
p53, a transcription factor involved in tumor suppression.

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